

and a Citizens Academy. The Sheriffs Department also worked closely with schools throughout Shawano County to provide ALICE training. It is evident through his years of dedicated service that Sheriff Bieber's commitment to his community and Northeast Wisconsin never wavered.

I wish Sheriff Bieber all the best after his decades of service and dedication to the law enforcement community. While a true asset to our community will be missed, I am confident that he will make a difference in whatever his future holds.

Mr. Speaker, today the people of Northeast Wisconsin thank Sheriff Adam Bieber for his extraordinary service to the Shawano community. Sheriff Bieber's distinguished career is deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

REMEMBERING VINCENT ASTOR

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Vincent Astor, an early "out" gay activist, theatre historian and organizer and a true icon of Memphis' distinct place in American cultural history, who passed last week at the age of 69. A flamboyant drag queen in his signature white wedding dress, Mr. Astor led Memphis gay pride events as "Lady A." A 1989 founder of OUTMemphis: The LGBTQ+ Community Center of the Mid-South, Mr. Astor was a well-known supporter of events promoting local history, including the screening of vintage movies, lectures and her-

itage events. A native Memphian and a quick wit, he graduated from what is now Rhodes College and was for decades the organist at the keyboards and peddles of the Orpheum Theatre's 1928 Wurlitzer organ. He often gave tours of the historic theatre on South Main Street famed for its ghost "Mary," killed by a trolley outside the theatre in the 1920s. Mr. Astor was also a large influence though a quiet voice in efforts to save the Orpheum and have it refurbished to its present glory hosting Broadway plays and musicals, concerts and other major public events. Gifted with a charismatic nostalgia, he literally wrote the book on Memphis' theatre legacy with *Images of America: Memphis Movie Theatres* (2013). In 2019, after advocacy by Mr. Astor, the Shelby County Historical Commission unveiled a marker outside Midtown's Evergreen Theatre recognizing the 50th anniversary of public drag pageants held there, and protesting a city ordinance against cross dressing. Mr. Astor will be buried in the historic Elmwood Cemetery under an obelisk he designed identifying him as both Vincent Astor and Lady A. I express my condolences to his many friends, colleagues and collaborators, and to the Mid-South LGBTQ+ community, all mourning their loss.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR JOE C. WISE JR.

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Mr. Joe C. Wise, Jr. of

Sheridan, Arkansas. Mayor Wise is an institution in the city of Sheridan. He began his service as city Treasurer in 1971 and was first elected Mayor in 1988. For a total of 52 years, Mayor Wise has honorably served the citizens of Sheridan.

Local leaders like Mayor Wise are the backbone of America, as they assess and address the needs of their communities. Mayor Wise has been instrumental in the growth and prosperity Sheridan has experienced. One of Mayor Wise's top priorities throughout his time in office has been to improve Sheridan's infrastructure. This work has included expanding the city's wastewater system and paving all the streets in Sheridan.

Developing recreational opportunities for the people of Sheridan has also been a big priority for Mayor Wise. During his time as mayor, he created a system of walking trails and expanded the city's fantastic community center. To ensure the longevity and continued development of these investments in the community, Mayor Wise also focused his energy on working closely with Sheridan's police and fire departments to ensure that public safety was at the core of Sheridan's growth. This work has helped Sheridan flourish, and the impacts of these projects are being felt daily by local families and businesses. Thanks to all that Mayor Wise has done, future generations of Sheridan residents will have a legacy they can build on and be proud to share.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mayor Wise for his life of service and dedication to the people of Sheridan.